



Tandem axle truck is equipped with two 325-bu. Unverferth gravity boxes, as well as two drill fill augers.

Hopper Trucks Improve Farm Family's Efficiency

Whether it's seed, fertilizer or harvested grain, a Jarvie, Alberta family's fleet of farm trucks equipped with gravity boxes makes short work of handling it.

"My father rigged the first truck over 30 years ago," says Dale Beamish who now farms 2,000 acres with his mother and brother. "Altogether, we run one tandem and three single axles with gravity boxes on them that we mounted ourselves."

The tandem International has two 325-bu. Unverferth gravity boxes that are bolted together as though they were one unit. One 24-ft. roll tarp covers the payload. This truck is the main seed truck in spring, with 6-in. drill fills and hopper boots mounted externally.

"Because the drill fill augers are at a height of 16 ft., the operator can drive along side

30 ft. of drill and step directly from the cab, onto the drill platform and fill the entire drill in under 15 minutes," Beamish explains. "The truck is used at harvest with the augers removed and side delivery chutes attached. Hauling from the combine is very handy with these trucks. We just use the center delivery chutes when hauling to the elevator."

"Rather than hauling around a gravity box behind the tractor, on a rough, slow wagon, this gives us really good movement and speed. The gravity box will haul slightly less than a grain truck hoist box, though," Beamish says.

Contact FARM SHOW Followup, Beamish Seed Farms, Box 67, Jarvie, Alberta, Canada, T0G 1H0 (ph 780 954-2166; fax 780 954-2671).



Sit-down cart is designed for use in vegetable and strawberry fields.

Build-It-Yourself Cart Lets "Pickers" Sit Down

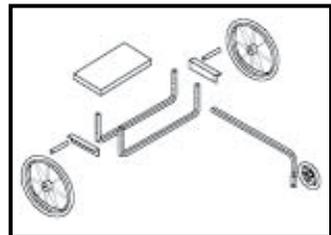
Small-scale vegetable and berry producers usually stoop, kneel, or crawl on their knees to harvest and tend their crops. They lean and stretch to reach the middle of the bed so that their body weight does not compact the soil.

As part of a project called Healthy Farmers, Healthy Profits, University of Wisconsin researchers are working to find ways to ease that physical stress. Their research is funded by a grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

One of the results of this work has been the development of a seated cart for use in vegetable and strawberry field work. New parts for this cart would cost about \$150, but you could also use scrap materials.

The basic design is quite simple. The cart is 42 1/2 in. long, from front wheel to back, and should be constructed 6 to 12 in. wider than your crop beds so it will roll in the paths between them. The front "leg", on which is mounted a swivel caster, can also carry harvest baskets or bins so there's less leaning and stretching.

The chassis of the cart is made from 1-in. square steel tubing. Two 26-in. pneumatic tires and wheels mount on back. A 10-in.



swivel caster attached to a 4 x 4-in. steel plate is used for the front wheel. For a seat, you can use what you have or pick up a small lawn tractor replacement seat. The team has experimented with various prototypes. An earlier one had all the frame pieces cut to length and welded together. More recently, they're suggesting using a Hossfeld bender to bend pipe at 90-degree angles and avoid some of the welding. This also cuts down on the number of sharp corners and edges.

Complete plans are available from the Healthy Farmers, Healthy Profits group.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Meyer, c/o Biological Systems Engineering, 460 Henry Mall, Madison, Wis. 53706 (ph 608 265-9451; E-mail: rhmeyer1@facstaff.wisc.edu; Web site at <http://bse.wisc.edu/hfhp/>).

New Deer Repellent Chases Deer Away

We think it's the most effective, inexpensive product out there to keep deer away from high-value crops," says Jim Burton about Bobbex deer repellent – an all-natural spray that deer hate to smell or taste.

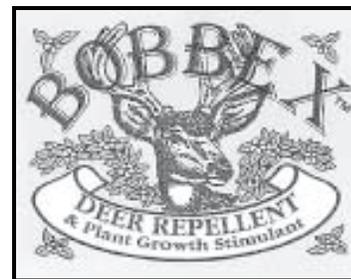
Bobbex is made from beef by-products. It can be sprayed on any garden or orchard crop. It does not burn the foliage and an application lasts up to two months, according to Burton. It won't wash off in the rain.

There are no special handling regulations since it's exempt from EPA regulations.

Sells for \$179 for a 5-gal. pail. It's concentrated, mixing at a 10:1 ratio so each gallon makes 11 gal. of product.

Burton also makes an electronic deer repeller called the "Dear Gard Pro" which consists of recordings of vicious, barking dogs and coyotes. The barking sounds come randomly out of two speakers, creating the illusion of dogs running. One system protects up to two acres. There are four different sound cycles so deer don't get used to it. Operates on a 12-volt battery which lasts three weeks before recharging. Sells for \$270.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim Burton, JWB Marketing, Westwood, N.J. 07675 (ph 800 555-9634; fax 201 666-7581; Web site: www.birdgard.com/bobbex; E-mail: Birdgard@ix.netcom.com).



Made from beef by-products, Bobbex deer repellent can be sprayed on any garden or orchard crop.

Burton also makes an electronic deer repeller (right) which consists of recordings of barking dogs and coyotes. The barking sounds come randomly out of two speakers, creating the illusion of dogs running.



Feed Trailer Makes Grain Feeding Easy

Topdressing grain on hay or silage for his beef cattle is a simple job for Armin Scriptor, Abilene, Kansas, who built a feed trailer to go behind his Yamaha Grizzly 4-wheeler ATV.

He started with a small 2-wheel trailer he got several years ago when he bought his first ATV, a three-wheeler. It didn't take him long to exchange that for a 4-wheeler, but he kept the trailer, which had been intended to transport the ATV behind a pickup.

Scriptor began converting the trailer by welding a hitch below the existing pickup hitch, to keep the trailer level behind the 4-wheeler.

Then he mounted a small metal bin, complete with a horizontal unloading auger on the trailer. He first mounted the bin on a square base that keeps it from tipping. The base, made of 1/2-in. steel rod, is anchored in place on the trailer by a 5/8-in. dia. pipe through eye bolts fastened to the trailer floor.

"I used a salvaged 12-volt electric motor that fastens directly to the shaft to power the auger. Most electric motors I'd seen needed a pulley and belt to drive an auger like this. With this one mounted on the shaft, though, it makes a really simple machine," he says.

Power to run the motor comes from a 12-volt battery that Scriptor mounted on the trailer. He starts the motor with a push-button switch on a cord that he holds in his



Trailer-mounted metal bin is equipped with a horizontal unloading auger. Scriptor pulls the trailer behind his Yamaha 4-wheeler ATV.

hand as he drives along the bunk where he feeds his cattle. He used the push-button switch because it's easier to shut off than trying to remember to flip a toggle switch.

"The bin holds about 300 lbs. of ground corn. I already had all the parts so it didn't take much time or effort to put it together. It makes feeding so much easier than using a tractor or carrying feed. Since we use it every day when cattle aren't on pasture, it probably saves as much labor as anything I've ever put together," he says.

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